

Ways of Making and Knowing:

The Material Culture of Empirical Knowledge

A Conference held in London, 10-15 July 2005

Programme of Activities

Supported by:

British Museum

National Science Foundation, Grant #SES-0444302

Natural History Museum, London

Painshill Park Trust

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Victoria and Albert Museum

The Wellcome Trust

The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL

Yale Centre for British Art

Sunday 10 July: Informal Afternoon Visit to Chelsea Physic Gardens

3:00PM Assemble opposite Gardens for tours

Monday 11 July: Opening Lecture and Reception in the Enlightenment Gallery in the British Museum

5:15-5:30PM Opening of the conference by Dr Amy Meyers

5:30-6:15PM *Making a Museum and Knowing the World*
Dr Kim Sloan (Francis Finlay Curator of the Enlightenment Gallery in the British Museum)

6:15-6:30PM Welcoming Remarks: Dr Andrew Burnett
(Deputy Director of the British Museum)

6:30-9:00PM Reception

Tuesday 12 July: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

10:15-10:30AM Welcoming Remarks: Professor Sir Peter Crane, Fellow of the Royal Society
(Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)

10:30-11:15AM *Princess Augusta's International Collections of Flora and Fauna at Kew*
Professor Mark Laird (Harvard University; Associate Director, Painshill Park Trust)

11:15AM-12:00PM *Trans-Atlantic Scientific Gardens*
Dr Therese O'Malley (Associate Dean, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC)

12:15-1:45PM Lunch

2:00-2:45PM *An Introduction to the Gardens*
Ray Desmond

3:00-5:00PM Garden Tours

5:00-6:00PM Tea

6:15-7:00PM *Early Greenhouses: Techniques of Stabilization and the Plant Trade*
Professor Chandra Mukerji (Professor of Science and Technology Studies, University of California, Davis)

7:00-7:45PM *Gardening and the Decay of Royal Grandeur: Hampton Court Palace Gardens in the Eighteenth Century*
Dr Todd Longstaffe-Gowan (Hampton Court Gardens)

8:00PM Supper

Wednesday 13 July: The Natural History Museum, London

8:30AM Doors Open

8:45-9:00AM Welcoming Remarks: Dr Michael Dixon
(Director, Natural History Museum, London)

Collecting:

9:00-9:45AM *Corals versus Trees: Charles Darwin's Early Metaphors of Evolution*
Professor Horst Bredekamp (Humboldt University of Berlin)

9:45-10:30AM *Godfrey Sykes, the Royal Horticultural Society Garden and the
South Kensington Complex*
Professor Tim Barringer (Department of Art History, Yale University)

10:30-11:00AM Refreshments

Decay and Preservation:

11:00-11:45AM *The Preservation of Specimens and the Take-Off in Anatomical Knowledge
in the Early Modern Period*
Professor Harold Cook (Wellcome Trust Centre for the History
of Medicine at UCL)

11:45AM-12:30PM *Decay, Preservation and the Making of Knowledge in Museums:
Paradoxes and Contradictions*
Mary Brooks (Textile Conservation Centre, University of Southampton)

12:30-2:00PM Lunch

2:00-3:30PM **Break Out Sessions in Collections:**

1. **'Competing Reputations: Specimens, Drawings, and Descriptions of the
'Tipitiwichet', by William Young and John and William Bartram'**, Judith Magee
(Collections Development Manager, Zoology Library, Natural History Museum) and Dr
Amy Meyers (Yale Center for British Art). Amanuensis: Paula Hung
2. **'Wood Specimens and Illustrated Sylvas'**, Dr Adam Bowett, Dr Lisa Ford (Yale Center
for British Art) and Dr Sandra Knapp (Researcher, Department of Botany, Natural
History Museum). Amanuensis: Lisa Ford
3. **'Minerals, Mineral Samples and Collections'**, Dr Celina Fox (independent scholar),
Alan Hart (Collections Leader, Mineralogy Department, Natural History Museum) and
Ann Lum (Collections Development Manager, Library & Information Services, Natural
History Museum). Amanuensis: Sabiha Ahmad
4. **'Entomological Illustration and Specimens'**, Julie Harvey (Collection Development
Manager - Entomology Library, Natural History Museum) and Professor Janice Neri
(University of Iowa). Amanuensis: Melissa L. Rickman
5. **'Sloane's Apothecary Drawers and Herbaria'**, Dr Rob Huxley (Head of Collections,
Department of Botany, Natural History Museum) and Dr Kim Sloan (Curator,
Enlightenment Gallery, British Museum). Amanuensis: Anke Timmermann

6. **‘Shells, Shell Cabinets and Their Illustration’**, Dr Glenn Adamson (Curator, Chipstone Foundation) and Kathie Way (Collection Manager, Invertebrates I, Zoology Department, Natural History Museum). Amanuensis: Jane Seymour
7. **‘Zoological Specimens (Taxidermy) and Illustrations’**, Dr Joanne Cooper (Curator, Bird Group, Natural History Museum), Paul Cooper (Assistant Librarian, Zoology, Natural History Museum) and Tim Knox (Director, Sir John Soane’s Museum).
8. **‘Nature Printing and Early Botanical Photographs’**, Jennifer Bryant (Curator of Algae, Natural History Museum) and Elisabeth Fairman (Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, Yale Center for British Art).
9. **‘Palaeontology, Collecting, Conservation, and Specimen Preparation’**, Chris Collins (Head of Conservation, Palaeontology Department, Natural History Museum) and Professor Martin Rudwick (University of Cambridge.) Amanuensis: Alette Fleischer
10. **‘An Introduction to the Architectural History of the Museum: A Walking Tour’**, Professor Carla Yanni (Department of Art History, Rutgers University).

3:30-4:00PM Tea

Healing:

4:00-4:45PM *When is a Book Not a Book? When it is a Treasure, or a Pathway, or a Cabinet: Vernacular Epistemology and Material Objects*
Professor Mary Fissell (Associate Professor, Department of the History of Medicine, the Johns Hopkins University)

4:45-5:30PM *Barber-Surgeons and the Making of Medical Knowledge in Early Modern England*
Dr Margaret Pelling (Modern History Faculty, University of Oxford)

Thursday 14 July: Victoria and Albert Museum

8:45-9:00AM Welcoming Remarks: Dr Carolyn Sargentson (Head of Research, V&A)

Representing:

9:00-9:45AM *Res, Verba, Pictura: Formation of Botanical Knowledge in Sixteenth-Century Europe*
Dr Sachiko Kusukawa (Trinity College, Cambridge)

9:45-10:30AM *The Rattlesnake: Benjamin Henry Latrobe and the Meaning of Art in America*
Professor Alexander Nemerov (Department of the History of Art, Yale University)

10:30-11:00AM Refreshments

Making:

11:00-11:45AM *From Skills to Wisdom: Making, Knowing and the Arts*
Dr Suzanne B Butters (School of Art History and Archaeology, University of Manchester)

11:45AM-12:30PM *Making as Knowing: Craft as Natural Philosophy*
Professor Pamela Smith (Professor of History, Pomona College)

12:30-2:00PM Lunch

2:00-3:30PM **Break Out Sessions in Collections:**

11. **'The Development of Natural Dyes and Naturalistic Motifs in the Production of Textiles'**, Clare Browne (Curator, European Textiles, 1600-1830, Victoria and Albert Museum) and Dr Alicia Weisberg-Roberts (University of Warwick). Amanuensis: Dr. Lucy Cutler.
12. **'The Use of Indigenous and Exotic Woods in French Furniture'**, Dr John Cross (London Metropolitan University) and Dr Carolyn Sargentson (Head, Research Department, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Paula Hung
13. **'Metalworking and Meaning'**, Paul Clark (Zoology Department, Natural History Museum), Peta Motture (Chief Curator, Medieval & Renaissance Galleries Project, Victoria and Albert Museum), David Reed (Natural History Museum), (and Professor Pamela Smith (Columbia University). Amanuensis: Anke Timmermann
14. **'The Literal (Bodily) and Figurative Incorporation of Flora and Fauna into Costume'**, Dr Marion Kite (Senior Textiles Conservator, Victoria and Albert Museum) and Susan North (Textiles and Fashion Department, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Jane Seymour
15. **'Subjects from Nature in Porcelain and Stoneware, in Particular Techniques and Motifs from Asia'**, Dr Rupert Faulkner (Senior Curator, Japan, Asian Department, Victoria and Albert Museum) and Hilary Young (Curator, Ceramics & Glass, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Alette Fleischer
16. **'Using and Imitating Nature in the Interior'**, Sarah Medlam (Senior Curator, Furniture, Textiles and Fashion Department, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Victoria Coulson
17. **'Botanical Illustration'**, Henrietta McBurney (Keeper of Prints and Drawings, Eton College) and Gill Saunders (Senior Curator, Word and Image Department, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Melissa L. Rickman
18. **'Natural Motifs and the Manufactory of Silver'**, Dr Helen Clifford (Senior Research Fellow, Department of History, University of Warwick) and Sophie Lee (Curator, Metalwork, Victoria and Albert Museum). Amanuensis: Sabiha Ahmad
19. **'Glass: Venetian Hot-Working Techniques'**, Ian Hankey, MA (RCA) (Teign Valley Glass), Dr Reino Liefkes (Senior Curator, Ceramics & Glass, V&A), and Liam Reeves (Royal College of Art). Watch the film made by Ian Hankey about this session: *Working with Venetian Style Glass* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSBY6Lc2-hU>
20. **'Leather: Making and Consumption'**, Dr Eloy Koldeweij (Netherlands Department for Conservation) and Dr Giorgio Riello (London School of Economics). **Session Cancelled**
21. **'An Introduction to the Architectural History of the Museum: a Walking Tour'**, Professor Tim Barringer (Department of Art History, Yale University).

3:30-4:00PM Tea

Consuming:

4:00-4:45PM	<i>Consuming Nature in the Early-Modern Global Economy: Indian Cottons and the European Market for Textiles</i> Professor John Styles (School of Humanities, University of Hertfordshire)
4:45-5:30PM	<i>Natural Things and Global Interests</i> Professor Lisa Jardine (AHRB Centre for Editing Lives and Letters, Queen Mary, University of London)

Friday 15 July: Painshill Park

8:00AM	Buses to Painshill Park from Prince Consort Road, SW7
9:30-10:00AM	Coffee
10:00-10:15AM	Welcoming Remarks: Lady Alexander of Weedon (Chair, Painshill Park Trust)
10:15-11:15AM	<i>Restoring an Eighteenth-Century International Garden at Painshill Park</i> Professor Mark Laird (Harvard University; Associate Director, Painshill Park Trust), Joel T Fry (Curator, John Bartram Association, Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia) and Janie Burford, MBE (Life President, Painshill Park Trust)
11:15AM-1:00 PM	Guided Tours of Painshill Park
1:00-2:10PM	Lunch: An Eighteenth-Century Picnic in the Walled Gardens
2:20-4:10PM	Demonstration/participation sessions:

Demonstrations will run for 20 minutes, beginning at 2:20PM, 2:50PM, 3:20PM and 3:50 - allowing 10 minutes to walk between them

1. Propagation area: Sowing, pricking out, cuttings, use of heat & mist; Practices old & new
2. Display garden: Principles of the design, manuring, composting & training of fruit trees; Hot beds; Willow weaving – baskets, plant supports, screens etc
3. Picnic Field: Sheep – use in landscape; Hazel wattle hurdle making
4. Amphitheatre: Weeding, watering, hedge trimming, pruning
5. Amphitheatre II: Grass care, scything, rolling, edging
6. Chinese Bridge: Flower cultivation, weeding, dead heading, plunge planting
7. Abbey: Brick, tile and pot making; Hand-made bricks & pots demonstration
8. Vineyard: Training vines, methods of production, bottles, transport

4:30-5:30PM	Formal Opening of the American Roots Project
5:30PM	Depart